

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR QUEUING ORDER NOTIFICATION

ABSTRACT

A mechanism for providing patrons waiting in a service provider's queue with information as to their status in the queue are provided. While a patron is in the queue, at time intervals specified which may be user selectable, an estimate of the time remaining is calculated based on the patron's current position in the queue. The estimated time and/or other queue order information may be transmitted to the patron using the patron's own device, such as a personal digital assistant (PDA), cell phone, etc. When the patron reaches the head of the queue, a notification may be similarly transmitted. Additionally, the party may be provided with the option to sacrifice its position in the queue for a later position.

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